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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM. RELEASE AS SANITIZED 1997

16 December 1859

MEROSANDUR FOR THE RECORD

BUSJECT: BSC Meeting (427th), 16 December 1959

1. The following briefings were prepared:

b. Cuba c. d. g.

4. There is no Council meeting scheduled for next week, but two are scheduled for the following week.

RICHARD LEHRAN

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CUBA

- I. Cuba actively pursuing neutralist foreign policy and seeking closer ties with Afro-Asian bloc.
 - A. Shift toward neutralism began on return of pro-Communist "Che" Guevara in September from 3-month trip to nine Afro-Asian countries and Yugoslavia.
 - B. Foreign Minister Raul Roa informed UN General Assembly in September that Cuba regarded US and USSR systems as twin evils and would ally itself with underdeveloped nations of world.
 - 1. Roa planning trip to Cairo in January, which may extend to other Afro-Asian countries.
 - indicate Roa's trip may be followed by high-level economic mission and UAR ambassador to Cuba advised that his suggestion that Raul Castro be invited to UAR considered "great idea" by Roa and Guevara.
 - D. UAR ambassador promoting sale to Cuba of Egyptian cotton yarn which Guevara says Castro does not want to buy from US.
 - E. Cuba issued public statement suggesting conference of underdeveloped countries for mid-1960 in Havana. Attendance of 28 Afro-Asian and some Latin American nations proposed, but we have no evidence that invitations have been issued.

- II. Cuba may also be drawing closer to Sino-Soviet bloc.
 - A. Soviet exhibition, which closed in Mexico 15 December, to open in Havana in February.
 - B. Reliable embassy source said 11 December that Roa plans visit to Communist China in January.